

Camden Historic Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Members Present: Acting Chair – Mark DeMichele; Meg Barclay; Judy McGuirk; Beedy Parker
Volunteers: Ann Sziklas

The meeting was called to order at 4:06p.m. by Mark DeMichele.

- Secretary's Report: The minutes of the September 11, 2012 meeting were approved as written. It was noted that not all the members of the committee are receiving the emailed minutes and agenda from the town office. Meg will contact Janice about this.
- Chair's Report: No report
- Town Manager's Report: No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Village Green: Judy McGuirk reported that the final workday for the year took place on Monday, October 8. Beds were weeded and raked, plants cut back and pruned and reflective posts were put up along the Allen Agency driveway property line to prevent snowplow damage to the Green. There may need to be an additional raking of the beds after more laves have fallen.

Archives: No report. Ann Sziklas stated that the archives committee is available if needed.

Arbor Park and Amphitheatre: Dave Jackson was not present to report. The draft letter prepared by Meg Barclay and attached to the 9/11/12 minutes was approved with one addition: "education" was added to the list of activities taking place in the amphitheater. Meg will get the necessary addressee name and address from Dave Jackson and have the letter printed on town stationary. Meg will also pass on the addressee information to Judy McGuirk so that the Camden Garden Club can write its own letter of support.

OLD BUSINESS

Demolition Ordinance: Beedy Parker's 3/6/04 Draft Demolition (Delay) & Notification Ordinance Proposal were passed out to the committee. It was recalled that this proposal was tabled during the time the committee was working on the creation of the Great Fire Historic District. The concept of demolition delay was taken up again by a sub-committee of the Planning Board which explored the concept of an Architectural Review Commission for

downtown renovations, eventually proposing demolition delay language to the Select Board. This proposal was rejected by the Select Board on 9/6/11.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Historic Resources Committee that, should members of the public wish to reopen the discussion of a demolition delay ordinance, the proper step would be to address their concern to the Planning Board.

Downtown Master Plan Update: No report. Meg stated that she thought the Proposed Ordinance Amendments to the Sign Ordinance (Article XI of the Zoning Ordinance) might relate to the Downtown Master Plan, but she was not sure.

Goals: The goals from the March 2012 meeting were discussed to see if any actions were to be taken on the goals as follows:

- 1) *The CHRC should participate in and contribute to the Camden Comprehensive Plan and Downtown Master Plan processes as they evolve.* – The CHRC has signed up to work on the historic aspects of the Plans as a group; however, the CHRC has not been informed of any activities in this area.
- 2) *The CHRC should develop educational programs that will promote and recognize historic properties and districts in the Town of Camden.* – There are a number of projects under way making Camden's history available to the public (the CPL's downtown historic walking tours, the self-guided QR code historic tour, the history center at the CPL, and a new project to create a Curtis Light museum at the light house). The CHRC will explore what it might do to promote these resources such as a combined brochure and website listings at the chamber and town office.
- 3) *The CHRC should regularly reach out to the stewards of Town owned historic properties by drafting a letter offering our support.* – The CHRC discussed that a regular annual letter to each such property, specific to the property, would be feasible and serve as a reminder of the CHRC's role in the maintenance of the properties.
- 4) *The CHRC will maintain a readiness to assist and support those who wish to access the CHRC historic documents.* - No discussion

NEW BUSINESS

Chairmanship of the HRC: The committee determined that co-chair-ship was most feasible given member's schedules. Meg volunteered to be a co-chair. The other co-chair(s) is/are still to be determined.

Minutes and Agenda: It was discussed that whoever had responsibility for taking the minutes would be in the best position to create the agenda for the next meeting. These could both be

sent to Janice at the same time. If the chair learns of new business after the submission of the agenda, the item(s) can be added into the new business at the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 4:00p.m. at the Washington St. Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Barclay